



presents:

"PHYSICS AS METAPHOR"

NASA physicist Adolph Smith: "Dissipative Structures, or Swimming Against the Entropy Tide".

Sculptor Julianne Frizzell relates her impermanent sculptures to the modern physicists' view of matter (Is it there? In what sense?).

Fiber artist and cartoonist Gertrude "Myrrh" Reagan discusses complementarity (How can something be opposite things at once) with the aid of her works.

Slides: Richard [unclear] paintings relating to energy and radiation.

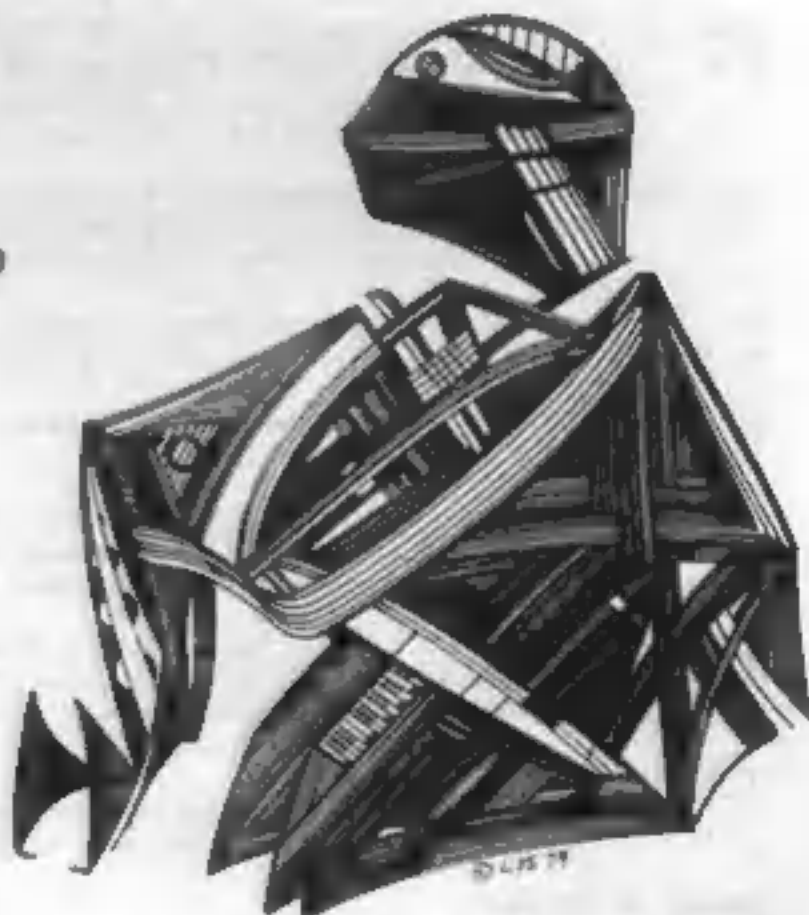
Also Happening:

Display of science-related art by members and attendees. Bring some!

SATURDAY,
September 19th 1981
2-5 PM

Fort Mason C-370
Laguna & Marina
SAN FRANCISCO

FREE



"The Great Think Tank" by Justin Shonaker.





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ARTISTS USING SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Ylem (I-lem): the
primordial stuff out
of which the universe
emerged (fr. Greek,
matter).

SEPTEMBER 1981 - CALENDAR

SEPT. 19 - Ylem Bi-monthly Meeting, "Physics as Metaphor", Fort Mason C-370,
SAT. 2-5 Laguna & Marina, San Francisco. Bring art to share, and books for
Perpetual Booksale. (This is a painless fundraiser: bring art or sci-
ence books & magazines you no longer need. Mark with modest prices.
Sales receipts to benefit Ylem.)

SEPT. 30 - Scott Kim's Booksigning Party for Inversions, reviewed in the Games
8 PM column of the Scientific American. A knack for puzzles, letterforms, &
computing enables Scott to make letters into indescribable shenanigans.
Printer's Inc., 310 California Ave., Palo Alto.

OCT. 10-11 - The Graphics Gathering, "Interactive Media", (tentative), Palo Alto
Cultural Centre, 1313 Maxwell Rd., Palo Alto. Put on by computer graphics
people and artists. For info call Robin Samuelson, (415) 493-1028.

OCT. 23 - Computer Music Dance Concert, Computer Graphics Demo., Reception for
7:30 PM David Kroos show, Sunnyvale Arts Center, 550 E. Remington, Sunnyvale.

OCT. 27- "Circuit Imagery", Serigraphs by David Kroos, Sunnyvale Art Center,
DEC. 5 550 E. Remington, Sunnyvale.

NOV. 4 - "Art, Science, & Technology", slide show by Ylem artists Steve Zins,
WED. 8 PM Marty Kahn, Gertrude "Myrrh" Reagan, and Amanda Marsh. Sunnyvale Arts
Center, 550 E. Remington, Sunnyvale.

OCT. 27 - "Trick or Treat for Space", at 11 Broadway, 435 Broadway, San Francisco.
8 PM Eric Burgess narrates a performance, "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Solar
System". A costume party follows. Meet at your favorite alien.

ALSO OF INTEREST

L.A.S.E.R. (Laser Arts Society for Education and Research) gives classes,
sponsors events using laser technology. PO Box 42083, San Francisco 94101.

MEMBER IN THE NEWS

Eleanor Kent had a one-woman show of her copy art series, "Money Women"
in Mexico City, Centro Universitario Cultural, Odontología #35; OCT. 1-16.

NOTES ON THE ARTISTS

"The Great Think Tank" - page 4

Justin Shoemaker is the penname of Leonard Sapoznik, who lives in Pleasant Hill. He has been an incurable doodler since childhood. His drawings were first reproduced by copy machine for his kids to color. A printer friend suggested technical pens for greater precision, and he became [redacted] with fine-line resolution. He broke the [redacted] lines-per-inch barrier (beyond which printers claim the eye cannot resolve differences) by fine pens and specially dilute inks. He emulsifies his ink with fluid used to clean printing presses. 600 lines per inch is possible, he found, and he is pushing the limit further.

Some of his drawings have been reproduced with metallic instead of white backgrounds. His printer cuts them by laser on black-coated metal plates used to make printing plates.

With the help of Carl Rosendahl, he hopes to animate the drawings on Carl's computer.

Arches, page 5

Marty Kahn is a graduate in mathematics and linguistics. He has been working as a software engineer for Northstar Computers, San Leandro, for two-and-a-half years. His first attempt at art was at the request of his employers, to see what the computer could do. Its capabilities and his flair for it were a surprise and delight to himself as well as others.

The designs have been published as a computer coloring book, and he is now blowing them up by Xerox and making them into paintings. He lives in Berkeley.

Network - page 6

Steve Cameron, who was born in North Carolina, now lives in Palo Alto. He has had engineering training, studies lithography, and programs his home computer. His computer not only generates line patterns such as this one, but can also be hooked up to a motor-driven cutter. The cutter is programmed to go in and out, cutting on a 2-foot-high rotating block of wax, and as it moves down, it cuts wax sculptures. Some of the forms are generated from mathematical functions, and are variations on corkscrew shapes. He is looking for an inexpensive way to mold them.

RECEIVE FUTURE NEWSLETTERS - BECOME A MEMBER!

\$5 per year - make checks payable to Ylan. Send to Gertrude Reegen,

227 Moreno, Palo Alto, CA 94303

NAME _____

SPECIALTY _____

ADDRESS _____

INTERESTS, NEEDS, OFFERINGS: _____

CITY _____

FUNCTIONS OF YLEM

Idea exchange:

- informal meetings
- general meetings
- in-depth lectures

- list people's specimens → • mailing list improvement
- Network with other organiza.

includes tours (labs, indus.)

Continuous bi-monthly mtgs., alternate locations

(Reg. meeting place in SF, P. Alt. improved publicity)

(for interchange of ideas & artwork need time to mingle 1st facing each other)

Access to resources:

- Eleanor Kant has color laser machines to share
- Several leads on equipment graphics firms which give artists access to their tools
- Ylem library? - need books, home to house it (diff. area home all year).
- Industry tools

Going Public:

- Display of members' works
- performances
- tie-in with schools, museums

lots of enthusiasm Steve Zing heads committee organizing them

FLAVOR OF YLEM

In newsletter, at meetings. (Headed: something to inspire artists for newsletter).

- More info. about fellow-artists!
- Keep emphasis on artists & art rather than tech. + sci. per se.
- Educate the public on Ylem art's usefulness as cultural commentary. Ylem artists don't ignore the sci/tech. flavor of the entire section but reveal its philos. implications.

- membership (newsletter dependent)
- pay the bar (meeting expenses, -keep expenses low.)
- Low-key fund-raisers (one "Perpetual Book Sale" share like that machine).

- Keep small enough to be friendly, organized enough to be self-sustaining, financially modest but stable.

share & retain responsibility for trans., programs, show org., publicity, etc.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRES...SO F-R

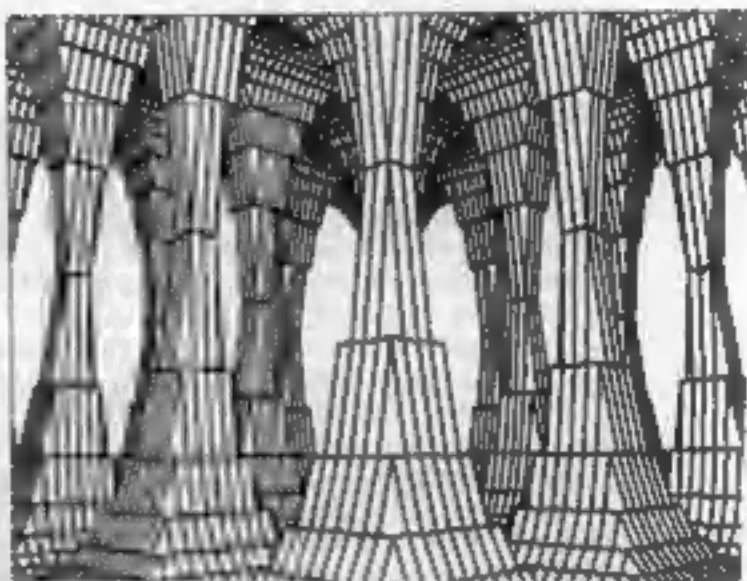
- Most prefer small but well-organized group.
- Rely on memberships, easy fundraisers. Fractal T-shirt to sell suggested.
- Interest group sugg.: photography (1), video (2), Computer graphics (4), logic & thought processes (1).
- General suggestions: • interactive newsletter: of artists list specific needs; b) include form to return when soliciting ideas.
- brunches, picnics together

READABLE BOOKS - PHYSICS

Disturbu

Disturbing the Universe, Freeman Dyson

More than Knowledge, Dyson's Quest is affectionate wisdom. His personality sketches of Oppenheimer, Teller, Feynman, and others he has known are leavened with observations about similar men he has encountered in literature. This, and his perceptive autobiographical notes, make this a most unusual, human book to come from a scientist. Later chapters in the book look to the future: self-replicating machines, ending the arms race, cheaper space travel.



© Martin Kohn 15

How We Know - Martin and Inga Goldstein, (Pleasant Press, 14.95)

The authors use case histories (ie, "Is Heat a Substance?") to show the scientific process at work. Surprise: It is not that different from art problem-solving. Also, they discuss what constitutes scientific proof. The goal of this book is to convey not only the practical values of science, but the esthetic and emotional rewards of doing scientific work.

The Dancing Wu Li Masters - Gary Zukav, (Norton, 5.95)

Zukav is a writer who has a knack for explaining the weirdnesses of Quantum physics and relativity theory without mathematics. Walter (Uncertainty Principle) Heisenberg once said that our knowledge is but a frail bridge over a chasm. Zukav shows why.

The Tao of Physics - Fritjof Capra (Bantam paperback)

Most physicists realized that they were travelling away from the traditional ideas of time, space, and matter, and had discovered limitations to their ability to know The World. Few realized that they were travelling toward an Eastern world-view where change, indeterminacy, and unity of ourselves with our matrix (the universe), are deeply felt. For some, this 1975 book was fresh air; for others who want to see Western science as a four-square, solid edifice, it was an icy blast. The chapters on Eastern thought sparkle with clarity. Those are Physics are written for the non-mathematical reader, but are are background which the Wu Li Masters does not. Try Wu Li first.

Watch for The Turning Point, (Simon & Schuster, 14.95), Capra's book due out in January. The four-square edifice idea is permeated our culture and given rise to huge social structures (multi-national corporations). The new world-view will lead us to soft technology and decentralization.

The current view is that no visual model of what physicists know ^{about atoms} is longer possible. Nevertheless, artist-sculptor Kenneth Snelson's Portrait of an Atom makes an unconventional attempt. The handsome booklet about his resulting sculpture, available from the artist at 140 Sullivan St., N.Y., N.Y. 10012 for \$2, has a lot of good background about the atom and its exploration.

the history of

These books, and the best Ylem art have ~~one~~ thing in common, something in common: they give us perspective.

INVERSELY, AS THE SQUARE OF THEIR DISTANCES
APART

It is impossible to see anything
In this dark; but I know this is ~~me~~, Rexroth,
Plunging through the night on a chilling planet.
It is warm and busy in this vegetable
Darkness where invisible deer feed quietly.
The sky is warm and heavy, even the trees
Over my head cannot be distinguished,
But I know they are knobcone pines, that their cones
Endure unopened on the branches, at last
To grow imbedded in the wood, waiting for fire
To ~~yearn~~ them and reseed the burned forest.
And I ~~am~~ waiting, alone, in the mountains,
In the forest, in the darkness, and the world
Falls swiftly on its measured ellipse.

From Collected Shorter Poems of
Kenneth Rexroth.

David Cameron 1981

